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Executive Registry
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Lieutenant General [REDACTED]

13 March 1952

Deputy Chief, Military Personnel Division

Promotion of Enlisted Men

1. The Military Personnel Division has been charged with the responsibility of administering all military personnel assigned to this Agency. In fulfilling these obligations, we necessarily encounter complications inherent in the administration of personnel of three services in a sensitive civilian Agency. To these complications, in the case of enlisted promotions, the element of misunderstanding has apparently been added. To maintain control, and to insure fairness and equality, it is imperative that this Division control the promotion of enlisted personnel as well as other purely military functions. Promotion of airmen, for example, is governed by a monthly quota from Headquarters, USAF. Since Military Personnel Division receives recommendations from many operating divisions within the Agency, it is absolutely necessary that the Division have the authority to weigh the various recommendations and allocate the quota to those most deserving.

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2. The Military Personnel Division, in its capacity as the [REDACTED] is the unit of record of these personnel. We carry them on our strength reports and we are responsible to the parent service for their proper administration. The

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[REDACTED] in the field is for convenience only. It would be impossible to maintain a proper promotion program if the field stations were authorized to make independent promotions. The authority claimed by the field stations under [REDACTED] refers to reporting and carrying units only, and is not applicable to the field stations maintained by this Agency. In the present situation, the only way to avoid requiring the individuals so promoted to refund any pay issued them for the grade to which advanced is the issuance of proper orders authenticating these promotions. We will do so upon notification of action taken.

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3. The Promotion Board of this Division has held monthly meetings since October 1951. Every Army enlisted man recommended by any Division in the Agency was promoted by the next meeting of the Board. Airmen were promoted insofar as quota permitted. All airmen recommended by any Division have been promoted with the exception of seven for whom a special quota has been procured enabling us to promote them this month. This Division has not received any recommendations for promotion on the men independently promoted by the field.

4. It is believed that the present promotional system is adequate and the only one practicable under the circumstances. It is requested

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that the field stations be instructed to discontinue independent promotions and to submit recommendations on the men they believe to have promoted.

5. The full facts in the cases of the alleged "flagrant injustices" are presented in Inclosure 1.

1 Incl.

|s|
[REDACTED]
Lt. Col., USAF

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